

1
2 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
3 EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

4 -----X
5 SUNIL WALIA,

6 Plaintiff,

7 -against-

8 MICHAEL CHERTOFF, Secretary, Department
9 of Homeland Security, I.C.E.,

10 Defendants.
11 -----X

12 July 12, 2007

13 9:51 a.m.

14 350 Old Country Road
15 Garden City, New York

16 DEPOSITION of STEVEN A. YAGODA, the
17 Non-Party Witness herein, taken by the
18 Plaintiff, pursuant to Article 31 of the Civil
19 Practice Law and Rules of Testimony, and Notice,
20 held at the above-mentioned time and place,
21 before Debra Stevens, a Notary Public of the
22 State of New York.
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25

ORIGINAL

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2 A P P E A R A N C E S:
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5 LOUIS D. STOBER, JR., ESQ.
6 Attorney for Plaintiff
350 Old Country Road
7 Garden City, New York 11530
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9

10 ALBERT R. GONZALEZ
Unites States Attorney General
11 Attorney for Defendants
United States Attorney's Office
12 Southern District of New York
86 Chambers Street
13 New York, New York 10007

14 BY: JOSEPH A. PANTOJA
Assistant United States Attorney
15 Special Attorney to the Attorney
General
16

17 ALSO PRESENT:
18

DAVID B. SUNA, Associate Legal Advisor
19 U.S. Department of Homeland Security
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SUNIL WALIA, Plaintiff

S. Yagoda

statement by counsel using the word "confidential." You don't have to be concerned with that. That is merely a housekeeping matter that the attorneys and the Court have already discussed and it is just a way of having it marked on the record. But it has nothing to do with your testimony or what you should or shouldn't be saying. Okay?

A Understood.

Q The general investigation group, can you tell me what you do? By "you," I mean the group.

MR. PANTOJA: Objection.

A During what time period?

Q During the time period of October 2006 -- January 2006 to present.

MR. PANTOJA: Objection.

A The general investigations group, I would say, had three major components. The first component is an administrative component, which is an admin function within the office responsible for property issues, physical security, the issuance of property, tracking of property, the inventory of property, the

1 S. Yagoda

2 maintenance of certain databases, the
3 maintenance of our continuation of operation
4 plan, which is the COOP plan.

5 Q When you say COOP plan, C-O-O-P,
6 Continuation of Operation Plan, an abbreviation?
7 C-O-O-P?

8 A C-O-O-P.

9 Computer issues with LAN. I was
10 very high on the hierarchy for the Customs
11 computer system, which I granted access for
12 people. I was responsible for maintenance of
13 that; fleet and vehicle management, government
14 property.

15 Basically, that was the
16 administrative component.

17 Q Was health and safety also part of
18 it?

19 A Yes, it was.

20 Q By "health and safety," health and
21 safety of the agents?

22 A Health and safety of the agents
23 and the office. Fire extinguishers, making sure
24 they were up to date. Safety equipment. Things
25 of that nature.